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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
By Linda Shaffer

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 016866-001507

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

T. William Hutchens *et al.*

Application No.: 10/728,442

Filed: December 5, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
THE DESORPTION AND
IONIZATION OF ANALYTES

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 9375

Examiner: Lyle Alexander

Art Unit: 1743

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

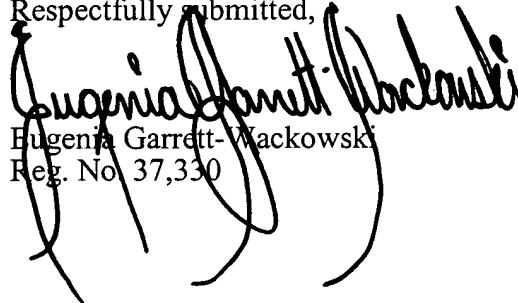
Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed August 31, 2004, Applicants elect, with traverse, to prosecute the subject matter of Group I, claims 1 and 13, drawn to an apparatus for desorbing only a portion of the sample. Applicants' election is made with traverse as examination of the subject matter recited in the claims of Groups I-IV would not place a substantially greater burden on the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eugenia Garrett-Wackowski". The signature is stylized with large, flowing loops and is positioned over the printed name and registration number.

Eugenia Garrett-Wackowski
Reg. No. 37,330

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